

The Official Action also indicates that the claims in this application are directed to two different species of the invention. As identified in the Official Action, those two species are as follows.

Species A illustrated in Figs. 7A-7G.

Species B depicted in Fig. 8.

In response to this election of species requirement, applicants hereby elect, with traverse, Species A illustrated in Figs. 7A-7G. Although it is believed that the election of species requirement is not particularly relevant with respect to the elected Group III invention recited in Claims 15-20, all of the claims of the elected Group III invention (Claims 15-20) are readable on the elected invention and elected species.

The elections are made with traverse as it is believed that examining the claims of this application directed to non-elected inventions/species can be performed without serious burden. For example, at least as between the Group II and Group II inventions identified in the Official Action, although it is recognized that the two claim sets may be separately classified, it is believed that the search required for the elected invention might likely extend into the area of classification of the non-elected invention. Similarly, insofar as the election of species requirement may be relevant here, the search required for the elected species would likely be the same as that required for the non-elected species. In addition, while examining the claims directed to the non-elected invention/non-elected species would require consideration of several additional claims, it is believed that the amount of additional work would not be seriously burdensome.

In light of the foregoing, withdrawal of the election of invention and election of species requirements, and examination of all of the claims of this application, including Claims 15-20 directed to the elected invention/elected species, are respectfully requested.

Early and favorable action with respect to this application is respectfully requested.

Should any questions arise in connection with this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that he be contacted at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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